

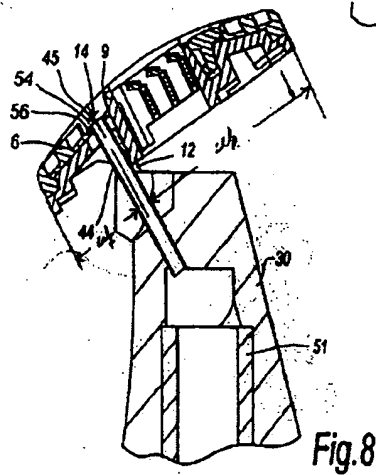
REMARKS

The specification and drawings have been amended to correct minor errors. No new matter has been added.

Claims 12, 16 and 47 have been amended to address the informalities noted by the Examiner.

Claims 1, 2, 38 and 39 have been amended for clarity, and to address the Examiner's rejection of claims 3 and 40 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Applicants recognize, in view of the Examiner's comments, that the phrases "within 45 percent," and "within 35 percent," in Applicants' claims are subject to misinterpretation. What was intended by Applicants, as evidenced by the numerical limits and ranges in Applicants' specification and claims, was that the front distance (W_f) shown in FIG. 23 is equal to, or no more than 45 percent less than, the rear distance (W_r). In some preferred implementations, W_f is no more than 35 percent less than W_r , and in some cases the two distances may be equal. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 3 and 40 are not inconsistent with the re-worded claims 1 and 38 from which they depend, and thus request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, 38 and 39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Simms. Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn. As discussed above, amended claims 1 and 38 require that the front distance (W_f) shown in FIG. 23 is equal to, or no more than 45 percent less than, the rear distance (W_r). This limitation is not met by the Simms razor. The only relevant teaching regarding the ratio of W_f to W_r in Simms is found in the drawings. Assuming, for the sake of argument, that the drawings in Simm are scalable, which is not conceded, the drawings do not teach Applicants' claimed relationship between W_f and W_r . On the contrary, W_f is much more than 45 percent less than W_r . Referring, for example, to Fig. 8, reproduced below, when measured on the patent copy $W_f = 17$ mm and $W_r = 47.5$ mm, and thus W_f is only 35 percent of W_r and thus is 65 percent less than W_r .



Claims 2-8 and 39-45 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Simms. These claims are patentable for at least the reasons discussed above, there being neither teaching nor suggestion in the Simms reference of the claimed relationship between Wf and Wr.

The remaining claims are rejected as obvious in view of Simms combined with various secondary references (Apprille, Andrews, Gilder and Rosenkranc.) These references do not supply that which is lacking in Simms, and therefore Applicants respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn.

No fee is believed to be due at this time. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 00216-659001 .

Applicant : Vincent P. Walker et al.
Serial No. : 10/799,938
Filed : March 11, 2004
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Respectfully submitted,

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/Celia H. Leber/
Celia H. Leber
Reg. No. 33,524

Fish & Richardson P.C.
225 Franklin Street
Boston, MA 02110
Telephone: (617) 542-5070
Facsimile: (617) 542-8906

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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement sheets of drawings includes changes to Figs. 23 and 44 and replace the original sheets including Figs. 23 and 44.

In Fig. 23, the reference numeral W_f on the right hand side of the drawing rearward of pivot axis 70 has been replaced with the reference numeral W_r , in order to correct a typographical error. Support in the original specification is seen at e.g. page 18, line 30 to page 19 line 21, see in particular the discussion at page 19 lines 16-18 of W_f referring to the front portion and W_r referring to the rear portion. No new matter has been added.

In Fig. 44, the reference numeral θ_2 has been replaced with the reference numeral ϕ_2 as requested by Examiner, in order to correct a typographical error. Support in the original specification is seen at e.g. page 22, last paragraph. No new matter has been added.

Attachments following last page of this Amendment:

Replacement Sheets (2 pages)
Annotated Sheet Showing Change(s) (2 pages)

FIG. 23

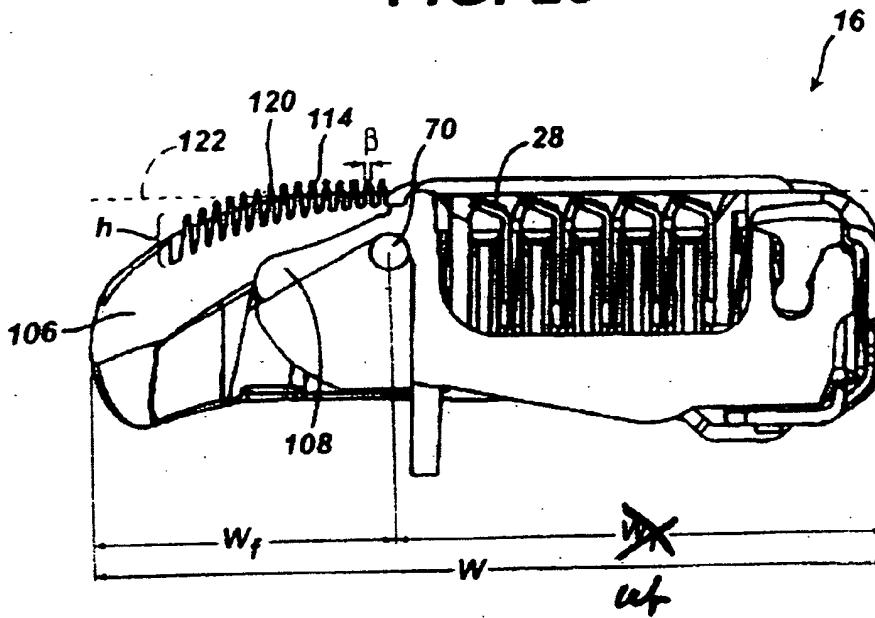


FIG. 44

